

the Acorn

VOL. LXIV NO. 4

MADISON, NEW JERSEY

SEPTEMBER 27, 1991

Teachers forum discusses budget

Tom Fowler
Assistant News Editor

Faculty members gathered in the Korn Gallery of Brothers College last Friday to discuss the quality of teaching and learning at Drew and ways it could be improved. The meeting, entitled "Discussions on Teaching" was held by the Task Force on Teaching of the President's Planning Commission to gather input from faculty on Drew's educational procedures. The findings of the task force, along with a reexamined University Statement of Purpose, will be major factors in the budgeting process next year.

"The meeting was really to discuss what we're all about at Drew, students and teaching," Associate Dean of the College Johanna Glazewski said. Glazewski, along with Associate Professor of Chemistry Alan Rosan and Professor of Psychology Jim Mills organized the meeting.

The meeting began with presentations from three faculty members on different aspects of their own teaching experiences to set a tone of open discussion for the rest of the evening. Glazewski said. Professor of English Jackie Berke talked about the benefits of the Master Teachers Program, a project in which faculty members attend

other classes, usually in a different discipline, to better understand the learning process.

Associate Professor of Biology David Miyamoto talked about the need to take risks in innovative teaching and the potential rewards of such actions. He further explained an exercise he designed for his Cells and Development course where the students act out a biological process through a play they write and perform.

Professor of Political Science Doug Simon then discussed principles of teaching and ways of relating with students that he had developed over his years of teaching as well as during the National Security Council simulation he conducts for his Advanced Studies in International Politics class.

After discussions on the different presentations, the faculty divided into smaller groups to discuss a number of general questions about education at Drew.

According to Rosan, some of the questions asked were what constitutes good teaching at Drew, what special characteristics are hallmarks of good teaching at Drew, and what factors affect Drew's educational environment.

"We all pretty much came to a consensus that good teaching and learning takes place See TEACHING, page 3



The blown out power supply board that powers the disk drive was responsible for the power failure this past weekend. Photo by Heath Podvesker

Aspen crashes

Yesha Naik
Assistant News Editor

All University residents trying to listen to their voice mail messages Sunday encountered a male voice saying, "All lines busy. Please call later." According to Director of Technology Systems Bill Beyer, the power supply board that supports the Aspen system disk failed Sunday around 1:30 p.m.

Telecommunications Manager Ed Davenport said, "If we didn't busy out the ports, [activate the recorded male voice], the callers would get continuous ringing."

In response to being told many students experienced problems as early as 1 a.m. Sunday, Beyer and Davenport said the system could have started to go awry earlier, but the total failure did not occur until Sunday afternoon. "When a total failure occurs we get an alarm sequence. Power supplies were about to fail. We have it completely failing around 1:30 p.m., but it could have been acting funny before that," Beyer said. He was notified of the power failure by the Office of Public Safety at 5 p.m. Sunday.

Davenport said the power supply board could have failed because of age, heat, or simply burning out. Beyer compared the failure to a car breaking down because of one faulty or old part.

Beyer said the system was re-operational some time after 10 a.m. Monday. When asked if the problem would have been fixed more easily if it hadn't occurred during the weekend, Beyer said, "Even if it happened during a weekday, when we do have full staff, it couldn't have happened any faster."

According to Beyer the delay in repairs can be attributed to the fact that the Aspen system is under a maintenance agreement with Bell Atlantic, which pays for all necessary repair and parts. Marty Wegryniak, on-site telecommunications technician for Bell Atlantic, said he spent most of Sunday driving around New Jersey to acquire parts needed for the repairs.

Broadcasting of WMNJ, Drew's radio station, was delayed one day as a result of the system failure. General Manager of WMNJ Vanessa Allen said, "WMNJ was murdered, killed, destroyed by the Aspen problem. If everyone had received the message [about the first meeting] WMNJ would be on the air [on time]. Many DJ's would be happy and would not have been

called out Sunday night."

Senior Steven Gausepohl said, "I woke up early, around 9 a.m., and went to check my messages and all I heard was 'all lines busy.' I know now that I missed some very important phone calls. Family and friends from home tried to call and they would get four rings and they'd be told to call back later. So they did. And they'd get four rings and be told to call back later. So friends called on Tuesday and told me, 'Nice phone system you got there,' after I'd been bragging about it for three years."

Beyer said telecommunications had learned something from the failure. Though Beyer said there was nothing that would prevent emergency situations from arising, there are ways telecommunications could convey information about what was happening to the University in a clearer fashion.

"I think we need to get informational mailboxes to work off an actual answering machine. We just need to let people know [the number] ahead of time so they can call to know about emergencies," he said. "We're actually at a disadvantage, too, because we are so used to using voice messages to get out to the College."

In response to student complaints Davenport said, "The system has been up for over a year without being shut down for any reason." Beyer added, "Everything has a mean time for failure. This system has only had two problems since September of 1988."

Drew celebrates culture

Jamie Lee
Staff Writer

Drew will celebrate its global community with the third annual Multi-Cultural Awareness Day Thursday, Oct. 3. Classes will be canceled so students may attend the events, which are open to the entire Community.

"We are further along on our goals as a University on what needs to be discussed," Assistant Director of Student Activities Pat Peek said. "For the first time we can be proud we have this huge growth in area studies, which allows us to look at different aspects of culture which have gone untaught."

The multi-cultural series begins Wednesday night at 8 p.m. in Great Hall with the Honorable Seigi Hinata, deputy consul general of Japan, who will speak on Japanese investment in America and dispute five popular American myths about his country. A reception will follow the talk. At 10 p.m., in the University Center, a sampling of international films and videos will be shown.

Thursday at 9:30 a.m., a community continental brunch will be served in the Baldwin Gym courtyard. Following brunch, Sonia Sanchez, internationally known author, poet, playwright, and pioneer in black studies, will deliver the keynote address and read from her works. Sanchez was the winner of the 1985 American Book Award for *Homegirls and Hand Grenades*.

At 1 p.m., in Great Hall, a panel will address "Multi-Cultural Education and Area Studies."

Panels will meet in residence hall

lounges and other locations at 2:30 p.m. Students, faculty, and staff of the College of Liberal Arts, the Graduate School, and the Theological School will be participating on each panel.

Peek said she felt there was a good response from staff and married students. "We have to keep that community feel," she said. "This is the only day all three schools celebrate together."

This year a great variety of topics will be discussed: A variety of area studies, the working class experience, environmental issues in the Third World, and gay and lesbian experiences at Drew University among others.

"The word multiculturalism gets a lot of use, and each institution has to find out how to use it," Peek said. "At Drew, we have to be realistic about how multiculturalism works here."

According to Director of Women's Studies Wendy Kolmar, faculty members and students decided to emphasize positive aspects rather than analyze problems. "It was important for the campus to shift from thinking about racism to thinking about celebrating Drew as a multicultural community."

At 4:30 p.m., the international festival will take place between the U.C. and Wendel-Tipple with live music provided by the Trinidad Tripoli Steel band. The festival will include: Vendors; food including Chinese, Indian, and Italian cuisine, ethnic snacks and sweets; and student performers.

The Multi-Cultural Day committee was chaired by Director of Student Activities Pat Naylor with the panel sessions organized under the guidance of Kolmar.

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